

Hello,

I would like to communicate that the reduction of the budget at such a high rate for Communities 4 Action would prevent them from serving the community in a way they have for some time. This group is active in substance abuse programs and education. Programs that educate our youth to the dangers of a variety of street drugs, prescription drugs, alcohol and tobacco abuse. This group has worked with the community on a large number of projects. This group has been a partner in many programs with the Stamford Police Dept.

Listed are some of the other actions that Communities 4 Action are involved in:

- Community mobilization and grant collaboration
- Substance abuse awareness, education and prevention initiatives
- Behavioral health awareness and promoting the use of Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment
- Media advocacy, program development, legislative advocacy
- Leverage funds for local initiatives and conduct fundraising activities to fill gaps
- Community needs assessment with surveys, data collection and trainings
- Develop a biannual epidemiologic report of substance use/abuse and recommendations for changes to the community environment
- To conduct activities to implement the initiatives identified in the report.
- To conduct activities to promote visibility for the Regional Action Council.

I have enjoyed working in a partnership with Communities 4 Action and wish to continue working with this group to make our community and region a safer place for our residents. Please review budget cuts that would remove these programs from our community.

Thank You

Capt. Richard Conklin – Stamford Police Department
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